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SIPDIS

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NSC FOR JENDAYI FRAZER
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SUBJECT: GOVERNMENT REFUSES TO RENEW AFP
CORRESPONDENT'S CREDENTIAL

1. American citizen Griffin Shea, senior reporter for the Agence France Presse (AFP) bureau in Harare, is expected to leave Zimbabwe on Saturday, September 14, following the Government of Zimbabwe's refusal to renew his work permit. Shea, who has been working in Zimbabwe since 2000, was ordered to leave the country by the Ministry of Information at the expiry of his contract this week. According to government-owned media reports Information Minister Jonathan Moyo has dismissed calls for the renewal of Shea's work permit, saying that no foreign journalists will be allowed to hold a permanent work permit in Zimbabwe. "We are not a banana republic wanting to please foreign journalists. . . . We are very proud that we are one of the countries who have trained an impressive professional cadre of journalists and they need work. Shea is an American and he can go and work there," Moyo is quoted as saying.

SULLIVAN